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REMARKS

Claims 1 and 33 remain in the application and claim 1 has been amended hereby. Claims 2 and 3 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

The title of the invention has been amended to read --RECORDING MEDIUM CAPABLE OF MANAGING GROUPS OF TRACKS FROM MULTIPLE SOURCE MEDIUMS RECORDED THEREON USING A SPECIAL CODE--.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-3 and 33 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Hui in view of Yokota et al., Igarashi et al., and Matsumoto et al.

The present invention is directed to a recording medium capable of managing track names (programs) belonging to several disc sources (group names) recorded on the recording medium. The present invention is applied to recent MINIDISKS capable of recording tracks from several discs by using higher compression rates, for example.

A feature of the present invention is to provide, on the recording medium, a first management area for managing a recording position of the programs, thereby managing the programs recorded thereon; and a second management area for managing program names (tracks), groups names (disc names), range information representing first and last program

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numbers included in each of the discs (or groups), and separating information for separating each of the group names corresponding to each of the discs.

It is respectfully submitted that the combination of Hui, Yokota et al., Igarashi et al., and Matsumoto et al. fails to show or suggest the presently claimed second management area.

Hui is merely disclosing index and directory files for providing the referencing means to access the data on the disc, that is, Hui at most is teaching a first management area.

Assuming, arguendo, that Hui suggest first and second management areas, the Office Action at paragraph 4 cites Yokota et al. as disclosing the data/information contained in the second management area.

It is respectfully submitted that Yokota et al. fails to show or suggest at least management data for managing programs from several discs or group names. Yokota et al. is merely teaching the management of a conventional disc, that is, one disc including one group of programs. See col. 7, lines 32-33 of Yokota et al. and, because there are no features in Igarashi et al. and Matsumoto et al. that somehow could be combined with Hui and Yokota et al. and result in the presently claimed invention, it is

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respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 1, and the claim depending therefrom, are patentably distinct over Hui in view of Yokota et al., Igarashi et al., and Matsumoto et al.

Entry of this amendment is earnestly solicited, and it is respectfully submitted that the amendments made to the claims hereby raise no new issues requiring further consideration and/or search, because all of the features of this invention have clearly been considered by the examiner in the prosecution of this application and because the present amendments serve only to further define and emphasize the novel features of this invention.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the title of the invention to read
--RECORDING MEDIUM CAPABLE OF MANAGING GROUPS OF TRACKS FROM
MULTIPLE SOURCE MEDIUMS RECORDED THEREON USING A SPECIAL
CODE--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 by rewriting same to read as follows and cancel claims 2 and 3, without prejudice or disclaimer.

--1. (Three Times Amended) A recording medium having a first recordable time in which a plurality of programs from a plurality of source mediums, each having a second recordable time shorter than said first recordable time, are recorded [and registered in a plurality of groups], the recording medium comprising:

a program recording area for recording the plurality of programs from the plurality of source mediums; ✓

a first management data area for recording first management data for managing a recording position corresponding to each of the plurality of programs; and

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a second management data area for recording second management data for managing program names corresponding to each of the plurality of programs, group names corresponding to each of the plurality of [groups] source mediums, range information representing first and last program numbers included in each of the [groups] plurality of source mediums, and separating information for separating each of the group names corresponding to each of the plurality of source mediums.--